



Tests confirm Lake Sammamish safe for swimming

Friday, June 3, 2016

Water samples taken for testing by Bellevue Utilities from Lake Sammamish show that it is safe for residents to swim and enter the lake near the site of two sewage overflows that happened over the Memorial Day weekend.

Improper disposal of baby wipes and fats, oils and grease down drains contributed to the overflows – one on Sunday and a second on Monday – in the 1400 block of West Lake Sammamish Parkway Northeast along North Rosemont Beach Road. A total of approximately 9,000 gallons of sewage flowed into the lake.

Bellevue Utilities worked closely with the Department of Ecology and Public Health King County to protect the health and safety of residents.

Bellevue Utilities would also like to use this event to help educate the public on proper use of the wastewater system to prevent future overflows. Please follow these tips:

- Only toilet paper should be flushed. Nothing else breaks down and will cause backups and overflows.
- Fats, oils and grease from cooking should be cooled and disposed of in the trash.
- Homeowners can recycle larger amounts of cooking oil in Bellevue by calling Republic Services for a curbside pickup at 425-452-4762. Oil can be collected in sealed plastic bottles like old milk jugs.

Learn more about proper use of the wastewater system at

<http://bit.ly/DontFlushTrouble>.